Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

A hymn appropriate for the day

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Pastor Congregation	In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Pastor	Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Pastor Congregation Pastor Congregation	Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor Congregation	O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
Pastor Congregation	Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ++ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word



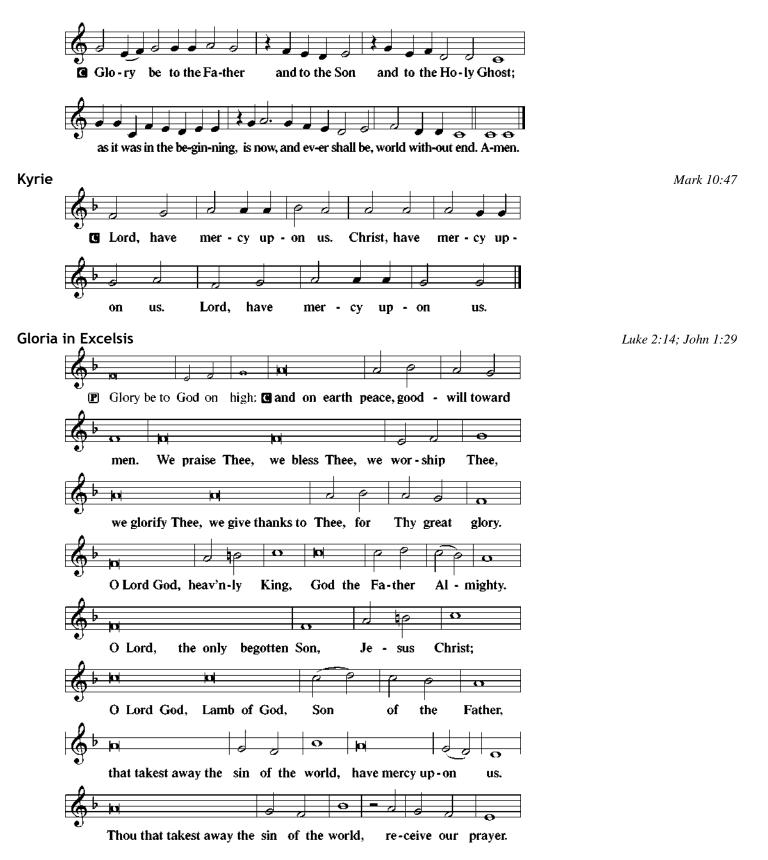
Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,* and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!* His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.
The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;* he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.* All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;* break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;

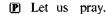
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,* and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.







Pastor

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

³Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

Assistant	This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

Psalm



¹Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,* in the company of the upright, in the congre- gation. ²Great are the works | of the LORD,* studied by all who de- | light in them. ³Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,* and his righteousness endures for- | ever. ⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;* the LORD is gracious and | merciful. ⁵He provides food for those who | fear him;* he remembers his covenant for- | ever. ⁶He has shown his people the power of his works,* in giving them the inheritance of the | nations. ⁷The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;* all his precepts are | trustworthy; ⁸they are established forever and | ever,* to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness. ⁹He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.* Holy and awesome | is his name! ¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.* His praise endures for- | ever!

Epistle

Colossians 3:12–17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Assistant	This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

Stand



Luke 2:22-40

Holy Gospel



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of

turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;
³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation
³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,

and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed Congregation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

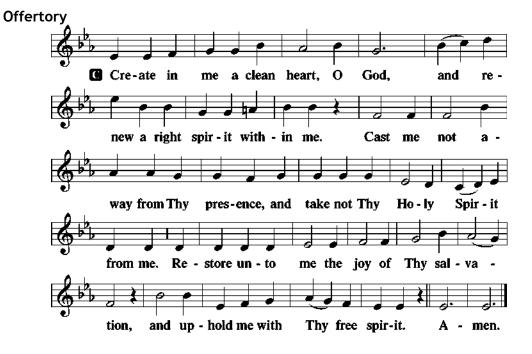
A hymn appropriate for the day or season

Sermon

Pastor	The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Congregation	Amen.

Stand

Psalm 51:10-12

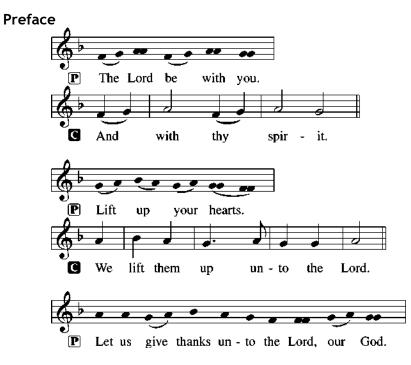


Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

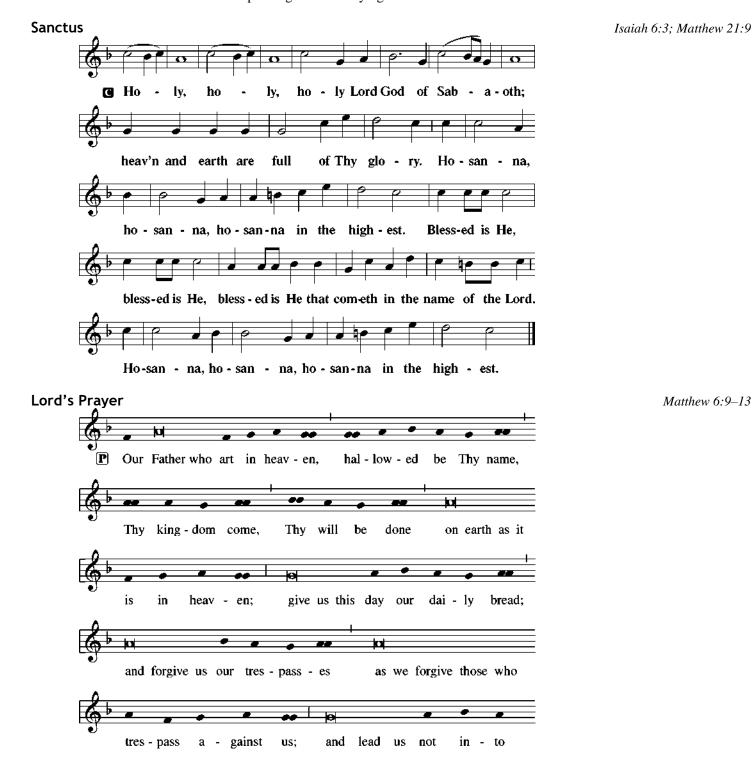


Service of the Sacrament

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

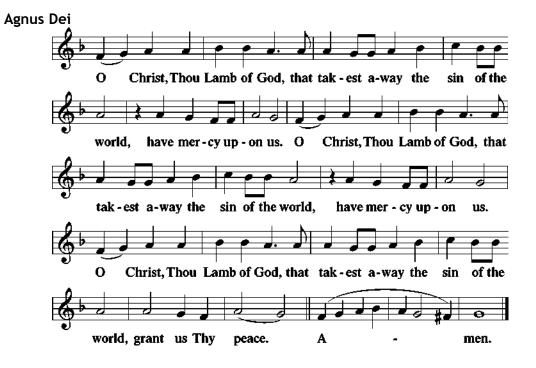


Pastor It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:









Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

PastorThe body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life
everlasting. Depart + in peace.CongregationAmen.

Distribution Hymn

Distribution Hymn

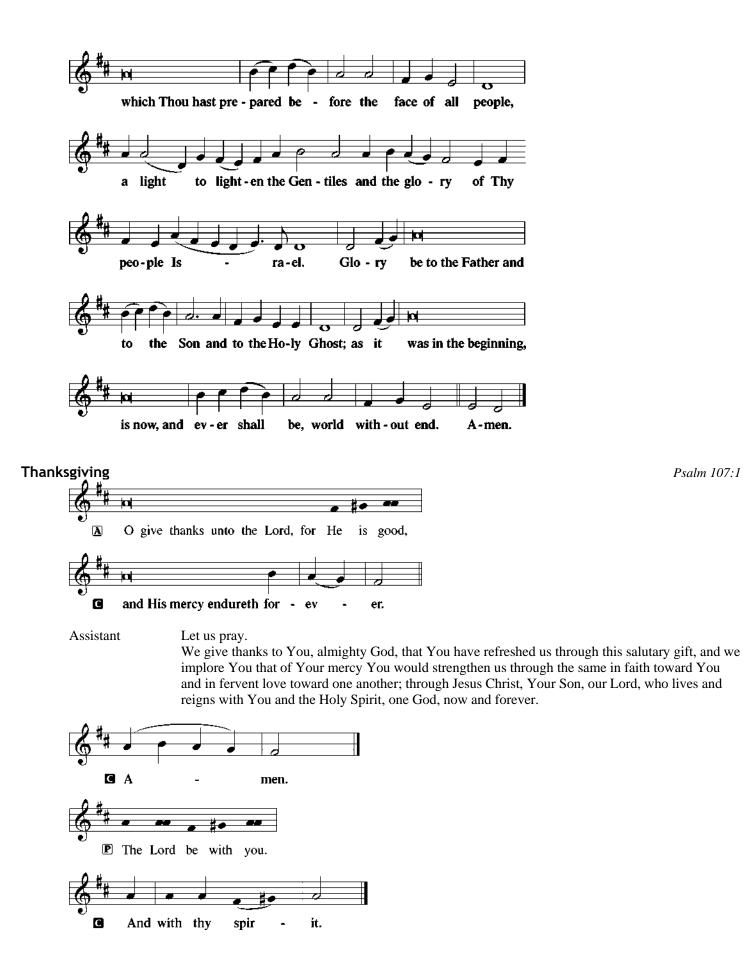
Stand

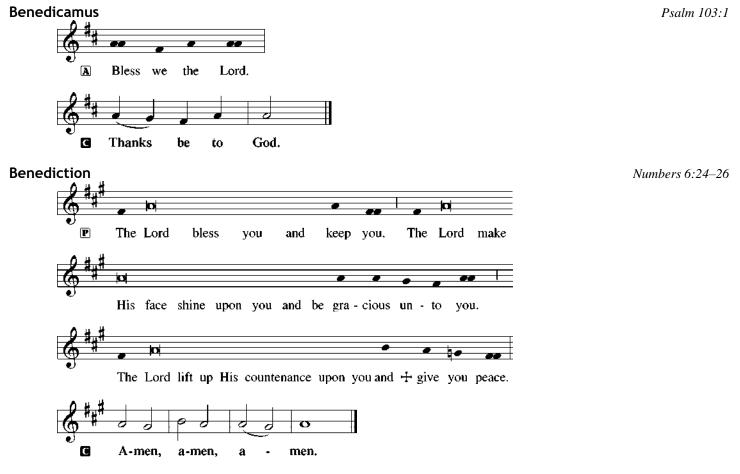


Luke 2:29–32

A hymn appropriate for the day or season

A hymn appropriate for the day or season





Hymn to Depart

A hymn appropriate for the day or season

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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